

**Mid Atlantic Rugby Football Union - Board of Directors Meeting
June 1, 1997 Alexandria, VA**

PRESENT: Directors: Reyn Kinzey (VRU President), Carl Schmitt (VRU), David Chapman (VRU Treasurer), Kris Kabza (VRU), Elaine Recchiuti (EPRU), Dana Bateman (EPRU), DJ Jefferis (EPRU), Tom Walsh (PRU), Mike Flanagan (PRU - replacing Eric Pittelkau), Nigel Willis (PRU - replacing Jamie Jisa), John Fox, Director-at-Large

DIRECTORS NOT PRESENT: Eric Pittelkau (PRU), Jamie Jisa (PRU), Jo Hollender (EPRU VP),

Guests: Jason Maloni, 7's Committee Chair, Clarence Culpepper, MARFU Sr. Men's All-Star Coach, Pat Walsh, USA Youth Committee Chair. Two players from West End High School were also present for part of the meeting - Brian Engler and Chris ?, President of West End.

Minutes of AGM

The minutes of the December 14, 1996 Annual General Meeting were not available for corrections or approval.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the March 9, 1997 meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer's Report

David Chapman, Treasurer, distributed a budget report. We are in good shape financially. (thank you, David).

Funding of Entry Fees for USA Championships

David discussed the fact that some USA Championship event hosts are still charging entry fees (despite objections that teams who qualify to play in Nail Championship should not be required to pay a fee). USA Rugby has not taken a stand on this and continues to allow hosts to charge entry fees (or "referees" fees, etc.) Consensus was that we all disliked the current system (which generally affects the Women's and High School teams) but felt MARFU should pay for any of its teams who are charged a fee to participate in a National Championship. David suggested we create a separate line item beginning with the 1998 budget for "Championship Fees." OJ so moved, Carl seconded the motion. Passed unanimously.

"Note" MARFU did pay the fees this year, however we don't have a separate line item in the budget.

MARFU Funding of MARFU Champ. Events

David proposed a minimum level of funding for hosts of MARFU championships. We should fund the items we consider important (field prep, medical, game eqmt.) There was general agreement. David moved that effective June 1, 1997, MARFU reimburse the host club or organization (upon presentation of receipts) for the following:

1. field rental or leasing
2. on-site medical personnel
3. field preparation components (paint, etc.)
4. game equipment (to include balls, but not goalpost pads)

Clubs or organizations bidding on championship events will state the cost of these items in their bid. Reimbursement will not exceed the bid amount. Proper receipts will be required for reimbursement. The motion was passed unanimously.

Note The Bid Form needs to be revised to include this new procedure.

Request from MD Exiles

The Maryland Exiles have requested compensation in the amount of \$250 which they paid for field rental to host the MARFU Men's Club Championship on April 26th. Passed.

7's Report

Jason Maloni, 7's Committee Chair, reported on the new regulations. David has posted them on the Web site. Jason still needs to get a clarification from the USA Eligibility Comm. on players moving between the same team (ie P-W I and P-W II). He will also see that each qualifier gets the previous tournament's forms so that CIPP and player movement between teams can be checked.

Site Selection for MARFU 7's Championship

Two bids have been received - Brandywine RFC and Second City Troop RFC (both EPRU). Motion was made to accept the Second City Troop bid (along with providing the financial assistance we just approved). Brandywine has limited parking and only one field (no practice/warm up area). Motion passed. Date is July 26th. The event will also include a HS All-Star match between the EPRU and PRU. (see High School)

Senior Men's All-Stars

John Fox & Clarence Culpepper discussed the schedule which had been established at their May 18 meeting.

August 9 LAU (EPRU, PRU, VRU) Round Robin Competition, Philadelphia

Nov. 8 Potomac vs MARFU Collegiates (*tentative) (Match 1), Richmond, VA
Virginia vs. East Penn (Match 2), Richmond, VA
(*Conflicts with Collegiate Playoff weekend & Div. II North playoffs)

Nov. 9 Loser Match 1 vs. Loser Match 2, Richmond, VA
Winner Match 1 vs. Winner Match 2, Richmond, VA

Nov. 15 MARFU vs Potomac I and II (2 matches) The PRU could not commit to 2 matches on this date so 2nd match may be a men's collegiate side, not 2 men's senior sides. Site in PRU (Nov. 15 & 16 is MARFU Collegiate Championship weekend)

Nov. 22 MARFU vs. Virginia & East Penn (2 matches), Site in PRU

Nov. 29 MARFU vs. MARFU Collegiate All-Stars, Potomac, MD (?)

Dec. 5,6,7 USA Inter-Territorial Championship, Tampa, FL

The idea is that we do this schedule every year - building a system which works toward IIT's. Clarence requested the full support of the LAU Coaches - we need to have cooperation from top to bottom and vice versa. He would like to take 30 players to Tampa for IIT's.

The staff is: Clarence Culpepper, Head Coach, AILittle, Asst. Coach, Mitch Bemstein, Asst. Coach. They will be the primary selectors of the team but that does NOT preclude suggestions from the LAU coaches. A Manager will be named shortly. Clarence also requested each LAU make sure their players know how to get on the team, when trials are, and publish this schedule well in advance so players can mark their calendars now. Cooperation and communication will be key in making this system work.

MARFU Collegiate Playoff Structure & Seedings

Kris Kabza had presented his proposal at the March meeting (and prior). Tom Walsh had offered to do a counter-proposal at the March meeting which was to be circulated well before this meeting. It was not received by most Directors until a day or so ago. The vote was 8 yes, 3 no and 2 abstentions on Kris's proposal. (Reyn and Nigel abstained). Tom's proposal received only 3 yes votes (Tom Walsh, John Fox & Mike Flanagan).

Women's "Premier" League

Elaine Recchiuti felt it would be a fairly easy matter to put together a matrix to determine a MARFU Women's Club Champion. Elaine will initiate this and report at our next meeting on September 7th.

Handbook

Dana distributed diskettes of the preliminary Handbook to R. Kinzey, D. Chapman, OJ Jefferis, K. Kabza, J. Fox, C. Schmitt and J. Maloni. The Handbook Committee is Reyn, David, Dana and either John Fox or Jamie Jisa. David has agreed to put the Handbook up on the MARFU Web Site. It still needs additional chapters and editing before it can be published. The Web Site address is www.rugby.orgjmarfu.htm.

West End Incident

MARFU & the PRU have received a report of a "streaking" incident by West End HS at the Natl. H.S. Championships on May 17, 1997 in Provo, Utah. John Fox and Nigel Willis reported on the incident. The recommendation from USA Rugby is to suspend the entire team for a period of one year, players and coaches alike, even those not at the site when the incident occurred. Guests Brian Engler & Chris ? asked the Board members for leniency, however it is not in our power to offer this. The incident occurred at a National Championship and the USA Rugby Disciplinary Corom. will make their decision.

High School Report

Nigel is very vigorously pursuing having an Under 19 side go to the World Cup next April in Toulouse, France. IRB will fund travel. We need to get camps run and try to get money from USA Rugby. Problems may be taking kids out of school for 2 weeks in April and getting funding from USA Rugby.

A match between the EPRU & PRUHS All-Stars will be played on July 26th, preferably before the final match of the MARFU7's Championship at Bryn Mawr, PA.

CIPP Update

David Chapman & Dana Bateman, members of the CIPP Committee, have participated in 3 conference calls regarding new CIPP enforcement policies to be instituted by USA Rugby. Some have to do with potential national event hosts who must be CIPP compliant, referees & coaches enforcing CIPP, loss of a vote at Board meetings for non-compliance, etc. MARFU is doing well but there are still teams who have ZERO enrollees on the CIPP list. Each LAU needs to make an extra effort to get these teams enrolled.

Site Selection for USA Events

DJ, who is Chairman of this Committee, reported that USA Rugby is trying to award events at least one year out. There is still an opportunity to send in a letter of interest to the USA Office should any of the MARFU clubs wish to host a national event or playoff.

USA Update

Reyn reported that the search is still on for an Executive Director and the games vs. Wales in North Carolina (South v Wales & USA v Wales) are back on. Dates are July 1 and July 5. Nominations for USA Representative Directors and International Athletes are due in the USA Office by June 3rd. It is in our best interest to have as many MARFU people on the Board as possible.

ERRR/MARRS

David reported on the problems we had this Spring with referees. He had also heard that as of 6/1/97 there were to be 3 Referees Societies on the East Coast (NRU, SRU & MARFU). He has learned since that is not true and the ERRR still exists. ERRR may request more funding. Nigel suggested we send ERRR a proposed structure and the request that we need to know who the referees are more than 24 hrs. in advance. David was asked to speak to Ed Browder about the Board's concerns.

Youth Report

Pat Walsh, USA Youth Committee Chair, reported on various Youth activities in MARFU.

Voting on Proposals

It was agreed that no votes would be taken on any proposals to the Board which are not circulated AT LEAST 30 DAYS IN ADVANCE of any meeting.

Next Meeting

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be held Sunday, September 7th.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana Bateman, EPRU Director

TO DO's

1. Clarification of Representation - Rules of Proxy - (do we accept email and to whom as notice of a change in Director? time frame?)
2. Appointment of Women's Club Chair and Women's Collegiate Chair
Job Descriptions for both positions
3. Job Description for Director-at-Large
4. Update and post the Bid Form for MARFU events on the Web site
5. Set criteria for hosting an event (what do we want done - what happens if the host doesn't do it?) Should we have a "bond" posted which would be returned if the host "did the job." Who keeps track (and how) of "good" hosts & "bad" hosts for awarding of future bids?
6. ERRR?